

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1432

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3730

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PR, UN, YU

SUBJ: PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: STATE 194115

1. DURING PM CALL AUGUST 19 AT YUGOSLAVIA'S MISSION TO DISCUSS SEVENTH SPECIAL UNGA SESSION AND LIMA MINISTERIAL PLENARY OF NONALIGNED WITH PERMREP PETRIC, AMB BENNETT REEMPHASIZED AS HE HAD DONE IN CONVERSATION EARLIER IN DAY THAT THE COMMITTEE OF 24'S CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO REPRESENTED FLAGRANT INTERFERENCE IN US INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE UNDERScoreD THAT ANY RESOLUTION ON PUERTO RICO WOULD BE COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE TO US. BENNETT AGAIN STRESSED THAT SUPPORT OF SUCH A RESOLUTION WOULD BE CONSIDERED BY US AS AN "UNFRIENDLY ACT" WHICH COULD ONLY HAVE UNFAVORABLE REPERCUSSIONS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS.

2. AMB PETRIC EXPLAINED THAT YUGOSLAVIA FROM THE START HAD BEEN TRYING TO MODERATE MATTERS. HE HAD TOLD CUBA'S PERMREP ALARCON THAT CUBA SHOULD NOT CONSIDER YUGOSLAVIA AS "IN ITS POCKET" PETRIC, STRESSING THAT ALARCON HAD FLOATED THE RESOLUTION WITHOUT CONSULTING THE YUGOSLAVS,
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SAID YUGOSLAVIA IMMEDIATELY HAD PROBLEMS WITH PARAGRAPH

IN DRAFT RESOLUTION CALLING FOR VISIT OF UN VISITING MISSION TO PUERTO RICO. ADDITIONALLY, PETRIC SAID THERE IS NO "POLITICAL MOVEMENT" IN PUERTO RICO RECOGNIZED AS SUCH BY THE UN; ONLY SOME "SMALL PARTIES" HAD TESTIFIED BEFORE THE COMMITTEE. PETRIC, WHO LEARNED BY TELEPHONE DURING MEETING WITH BENNETT THAT PM MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF 24 HAD ADJOURNED WITHOUT A VOTE, SAID THAT CUBANS HAD SO FAR PREPARED FOUR AMENDED TEXTS OF RESOLUTIONS AND WERE STARTING ON A FIFTH FOLLOWING AFTERNOON'S ADJOURNMENT.

3. WHEN BENNETT STRESSED THAT THE "FANATACISM OF ONE COUNTRY" WAS BEING ALLOWED BY MANY COUNTRIES TO THREATEN THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE US. PETRIC HAD LITTLE TO SAY. PETRIC SAID CUBA WAS INSISTENT ON HAVING A RESOLUTION TO CARRY TO LIMA AND IMPLIED OTHERS LIKE YUGOSLAVIA HAD TO HELP CUBA OUT OF HER SELF-CREATED DIFFICULTY. BENNETT RESPONDED HE COULD ONLY CONCLUDE THAT BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH CUBA ARE REGARDED AS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THOSE WITH US. PETRIC HAD NO REPLY BUT REMARK SEEMED TO HAVE SOME IMPACT. (WE HAVE SINCE LEARNED THAT YUGOSLAVIA NOW FAVORS POSTPONEMENT MOTION.) BENNETT FINISHED BY REEMPHASIZING THAT ANY RESOLUTION ON PUERTO RICO EMERGING FROM THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO US.
BENNETT

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